GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2928
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2017
Open Defecation Near Rail Lines
Manjhi Shri Hari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land of both sides of rail lines particularly in towns and cities is being used to openly defecate and throw garbage and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(b) whether steps are being taken under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by the Railway Authorities to overcome the said problem; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)
(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The problem of open defecation alongside the railway tracks largely exists in approaches to stations falling in major cities where railway land is encroached upon. It not only causes public nuisance but also affects the safety and train operations. Indian Railways has undertaken a series of measures to address this problem as under:
(i) Guidelines have been issued to Zonal Railways to permit provision of suitable mobile toilets / eco-friendly mobile toilets by the local Government for the use of encroachers in the railway land to avoid human defecation on the railway track and nearby.
(ii) Adequate toilets as per norms have been provided at railway stations for the passengers.
(iii) Regular cleaning drives and awareness campaigns under Swachh Bharat Mission have been undertaken for keeping railway premises clean which include prevention of open defecation.
(iv) Indian Railway is actively associated with the Government of India's initiative for generating awareness for prevention of open defecation alongside the railway tracks in coordination with local Government.
At major trespass locations, alongside the stations in the city areas, boundary wall has also been planned, wherever feasible.

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